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F A C S I M I L E C O V E R L E T T E R

DATE: 19 May 2004
TOTAL NO. OF PAGES: 8 (including cover page)
TO: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
Attention: Mr. Ivars C. Cintins
FAX NUMBER: 703-872-9306
RE: Patent Application Serial No. 09/976,892

Dear Examiner Cintins:

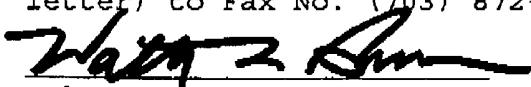
In accordance with the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed on 17 May 2004, please find included herewith a copy of the response to the Office Action dated 29 January 2004 for the above-identified application. The claim status of claims 6, 8 and 12 is now listed as previously presented in accordance with the Notice.

Cordially yours,


Walter L. Beavers

WLB:ph

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner For Patents, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Attention: Examiner Ivars C. Cintins (8 pages including cover letter) to Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on this the 19th day of May 2004.


Walter L. Beavers